



IRA S. NESENOFF  
ANDREW T. MILTENBERG

MEGAN S. GODDARD  
SHARI S. LASKOWITZ

KIMBERLY C. LAU  
MARCO A. SANTORI  
BARBARA H. TRAPASSO  
ARIYA M. WAXMAN  
ROBERT D. WERTH  
DIANA R. ZBOROVSKY

SENIOR LITIGATION  
COUNSEL

PHILIP A. BYLER

COUNSEL

REBECCA C. NUNBERG  
MARLA B. TUSK

PARALEGALS

ALLISON A. DUGGAN  
ROSA L. ZAPATA  
CHRISTINA SPINELLI

July 10, 2014

**VIA ECF**

The Honorable Jesse M. Furman  
United States District Court Judge  
for the Southern District of New York  
40 Centre Street, Room 2202  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: John Doe v. Columbia University and Trustees of Columbia University  
Civil Action No.: 14-cv-3573 (JMF)**

Dear Judge Furman:

The undersigned is counsel to plaintiff, John Doe (“Plaintiff”), in the above-referenced matter. Yesterday, we received a letter from defendants, Columbia University and Trustees of Columbia University (“Defendants”), which purports to advise Your Honor that Defendants “do not oppose” Plaintiff’s Motion for Leave to Proceed Under Pseudonym (“Motion”). Defendants’ letter of advisement, however, goes on to provide additional commentary regarding Defendants’ feelings on Plaintiff’s choice to commence the action under a pseudonym. Thus, we feel constrained to write the instant letter in response.

As clearly noted in the Complaint (pp. 21-24), Plaintiff’s action was commenced against the backdrop of sharp criticism and malicious commentary lodged by several Columbia University student organizations claiming that the university is not being vigilant enough when handling cases involving alleged sexual misconduct. In fact, such student backlash was highly publicized in an article from the New York Times describing how female Columbia University students scribbled the names of alleged male student sexual assailants on the wall of the women’s restroom at Columbia University. *See The New York Times Online, available at [http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/14/nyregion/list-of-names-in-sex-assaults-roils-columbia.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/14/nyregion/list-of-names-in-sex-assaults-roils-columbia.html?_r=0)* (last visited July 9, 2014). The decision to proceed pseudonymously and to shield the female student accuser’s identity was not only a calculated one, but one made out of respect for the female student and protection from retaliation for Plaintiff, as an alleged male student sexual assailant.

The fact that Defendants question Plaintiff’s motives for bringing the action pseudonymously demonstrates their failure to review the pleadings and/or understand the current climate surrounding Columbia University.



**Hon. Jesse M. Furman**  
**July 10, 2014**  
**Page 2 of 2**

We are grateful for Your Honor's attention to these matters. Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

**Very truly yours,**  
**NESENOFF & MILTENBERG, LLP**

By:   
Andrew T. Miltenberg, Esq.  
Kimberly C. Lau, Esq.

**cc: Alan Schoenfeld, Esq.**